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4-30-1985

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Panther Sports News

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April 30, 1985

LS-GCAC-Hts

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL (April 30, 1985)--The stretch drive is upon the Eastern Illinois women's softball team as it heads into the final homestand of the 1985 campaign. The Lady Panthers--19-19-1 overall and 3-10-1 in the league--hope to gain some momentum for the Gateway Conference tourney by entertaining league leader Illinois State on Friday (2:30 p.m.) and Indiana State on Saturday (2:30 p.m.).

Illinois State leads the conference with a 10-2 mark while Indiana State sports a 5-7 loop record. The Sycamores are in eighth place and the Lady Panthers are in 10th place.

"I think our wins against Evansville on Monday got us back on our feet," states EIU head coach Deanna D'Abbraccio. "We've started hitting the ball again and that is always a good sign. We've been getting good pitching all season from Zam (Mogill) and Shelly (Eddington) and I expect that to continue. They have been battling the opponents all year.

"We have a real good opportunity to raise our seeding in the tournament by beating Indiana State and Illinois State this weekend. Indiana State is right above us in the standings and I know we could beat them if we get it all together."

The Lady Panthers sport two of the top four hitters in the conference. Freshman Angel Lendvay (Mundelein) and Shelly Eddington (Brighton/Southwestern) are the third and fourth hitters in the Gateway and, ironically enough, the "dynamic duo" alternate between hitting third and fourth for EIU.

Lendvay's average is an impressive .363--she has been among the top three hitters in the conference since the end of March. The strong arm rightfielder leads the club in hits (41), RBI (15) and doubles (4). Lendvay also has rapped out four doubles and one round-tripper.

Eddington may be the most versatile player on the club. The designated hitter/pitcher has a .350 average and an 8-11 pitching record. She leads the club in runs scored (15), triples (5) and home runs (2). The senior physical education major has 13 RBI and 35 hits to her credit. Eddington's 0.95 ERA is sixth in the league.

EIU's "other" pitcher is freshman Zam Mogill (Streator). She is 9-8-1 with a 0.73 ERA--good enough for third-best in the Gateway. Mogill has 89 "K's" and has demonstrated pinpoint control by walking only 16 batters in a team-leading 134.2 innings.